



# DARPA PAST CONTRIBUTIONS

By

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# PAST CONTRIBUTIONS



## Late 1950s, Early 1960s

- Saturn Launch Vehicle, Centaur Engine
- Vela Hotel Satellites
- BMD Foundations (Project PRESS, KREMS)

## Vietnam era

- M-16 Rifle (AR-15)
- Ground Surveillance Radars (Camp Sentinel Radars)
- SURTASS, Acoustic Res Ctr (Illiatic)
- Transit Satellites
- UAVs (Praerie, Calere)
- ROTHHR

## Early 1980s

- Much of SDI technology
- AMOS satellite imaging and adaptive optics

## Modern network systems - ARPANET

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Occasionally I get asked the question, “What has DARPA done for the Army/Navy/Air Force/fill-in-the-blank-organization lately?” Since this gives me an Excedrin headache, let me give you some examples of some of the technologies and programs that owe their existence to DARPA’s efforts. Many of them you will recognize; others are lesser known. And, of course, these are only a small selection.

# PAST CONTRIBUTIONS (cont'd)



## 1980s

- Interactive simulation systems (SIMNET)
- Javelin (Tankbreaker); Armor/Anti-Armor
- Non-penetrating submarine periscope
- Unmanned underwater vehicles; acoustic quieting tech
- LPI/LO radars
- Endurance UAVs (Condor, Amber)
- Pegasus, Taurus launch vehicles

## Desert Storm

- JSTARS (Assault Breaker, Pave Mover)
- ATACMS (Assault Breaker)
- F-117 (Have Blue), B-2 (Tacit Blue)

## Bosnia, Somalia

- Predator (Amber)
- Soldier 911
- Personnel and vehicle armor
- Bosnia C3 Augmentation System
- Natural Language

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We have commissioned a study of past DARPA technologies and concepts that have transitioned into military capabilities now in the hands of the US military. We felt that it was important to document how these items have transitioned with a view toward improving such transitions in the future. The study was done by a very capable group of DARPA alumni, and we appreciate their efforts. The study should be available next month. We have not yet determined how we will make it available to the public, but if you are interested in receiving information on how to get a copy, please send an e-mail message to [webmaster@darpa.mil](mailto:webmaster@darpa.mil) and we will let you know.